

Midtown High 18 November 2024 Meeting

Strong Schools Start With a Strong GO Team!

What's New for 2020-2025?

Mission

With a caring culture of equity, trust, and collaboration, every student will graduate ready for college, career, and life.



Vision

A high-performing school district where students love to learn, educators inspire, families engage, and the community trusts the system.



Agenda

Charter System Overview

The Role of the GO Team (LSGT)

The Work of the GO Team

Keys to GO Team's Success

Governance in a Charter System?



"School level governance" means decisionmaking authority in personnel decisions, financial decisions, curriculum and instruction, resource allocation, establishing and monitoring the achievement of school improvement goals, and school operations

>O.C.G.A. 20-2-2062(12.1)

- Georgia law makes it clear that schools within a GaDOE charter system remain under the control and management of the Local Board of Education [See O.C.G.A. 20-2-2065(b)(2)]
- This means that, although the Superintendent and LBOE must give consideration to the recommendations and input of LSGTs, the LBOE ultimately retains its constitutional authority

Governance in a Charter System

Local Board of Education – Role Stays the Same

 Responsible for hiring and holding superintendent accountable, district policy and governance

Superintendent – Role Changes

- Distributes authority from central office to school level
- Delegates some of his/her authority to LSGTs to make school-level decisions that will increase student improvement

Local School Governance Team (GO Teams) – New Role

- Focused on governance
- Attention to school-level strategic planning, budgeting and school improvement

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Board Member Core Duties



GO Team members
will fulfill their role to
the best of their
abilities, including
actively participating
at meetings.



Focus

GO Team members
will act in the best
interest of their school
and all students and
not in the interest of
individuals.



GO Team members will ensure the team complies with APS policies and GA laws as they apply to GO Teams.

GO Team Roles and Responsibilities

Powers:

Approve the school strategic plan and updates and monitor its implementation

Develop innovative ideas for school-level flexibility through the School-Based Solutions process

Provide input into school-based curriculum selection and accompanying instructional materials

Give feedback on and approve the annual school budget recommendations

Make suggestions regarding school operations decisions that support the school strategic plan

Participate in the selection of a new principal, in the case of a vacancy

Offer annual feedback on principal performance to the Associate Superintendent

To learn more about GO Team roles and responsibilities, look in the GO Team Handbook

GO Team Roles and Responsibilities

Also Responsible for:

Communicating GO Team work to stakeholders, including students, parents, community members, faculty, and staff

Participating in an annual assessment of the GO Team's performance and results

Meeting a minimum of seven times each fiscal/school year (July 1 - June 30) – Organizational + 6 Business Meetings.

Abiding by state Open Meetings and Open Records laws.

GO Team & Principal Working Together to Raise Student Achievement

GO Team

(Local School Governance Team @APS)
Focused on the big picture



Gives input on and approves the key improvement priorities



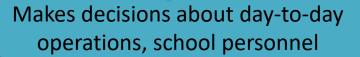
Adopts strategic plan & budget designed to address priorities



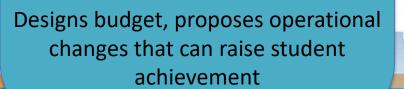
Provides input about budget, resources & operations to raise student achievement

Principal

Serves as the expert on the school and strategic priorities/plan

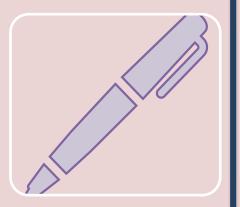


Fleshes out strategies, implements and manages them at the school level











CHAIR

- Works with GO Team to create the agenda
- Leads meetings
- Monitors GO Team compliance with Open Meeting Laws and member training

VICE-CHAIR

- Ensures compliance with parliamentary procedure
- Acts as Chair, if the Chair is absent

SECRETARY

- Takes minutes at meetings
- Ensures compliance with Open Meeting Laws by posting GO Team documents

CLUSTER REP

- Attends Cluster
 Advisory Team (CAT)
 meetings (about
 3/year)
- Reports out at CAT about your school
- Brings cluster report back to GO Team
- Can hold an officer position

GO Team Meeting Minutes

The official record:

If it isn't in the minutes, it didn't happen!

Accurate Representation of Decisions

• Meeting minutes will clearly and concisely reflect the decisions made, including approved motions, votes, and key actions taken.

Focus on Governance, Not Discussion

• Minutes will capture the essence of what was decided and why it matters, without delving into the details of discussions or individual comments.

Timeliness and Accessibility

 Minutes will be prepared and shared in a timely manner, ensuring all stakeholders have access to a reliable record of the board's actions and priorities. Members will submit edits to the secretary in a timely manner.

Compliance and Transparency

• Minutes will adhere to open meeting laws and serve as a tool to promote transparency and accountability within the school community.

Clarity and Professionalism

• Minutes will be written in a clear, professional tone that reflects the GO Team's role as a governing body.

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What's The Work

Curriculum, School Improvement and School Operations

Principal

- Solicits feedback on future curriculum changes and instructional material purchases
- Develops draft improvement goals and school-wide plan
- Delivers school progress presentation once a semester

GO Team

- Assists principal finalize school improvement goals and school-wide plan
- Develops and approves school innovations
- Monitors school improvement implementation
- Develops a parent and community engagement plan

Outcomes

- Finalized School Strategic Plan
- Improved CCRPI ratings
- Instructional materials aligned to student needs
- Successful implementation of the cluster signature program
- Improve parent and community relations

Finance

Principal

- Prepares school budgets for review
- Secures and ensures instructional resources are used appropriately
- Ensures good stewardship of fiscal resources
- Remains in compliance with district, state and federal spending guidelines

GO Team

- Develops and monitors approved SBS funding request
- Provides input in school budgets
- Ensures good stewardship of fiscal resources
- Provides input on school resources during the consideration phase.
- Ensures instructional resources are suitable and sustainable

Outcomes

- Improved student achievement
- Sustainable cluster signature program
- Improved school climate
- Improved school fiscal stewardship

Personnel

Principal

- Recruits and selects highly qualified candidates for vacancies.
- Monitors and evaluates staff
- Develops and retains quality staff
- Determines yearly staff assignments

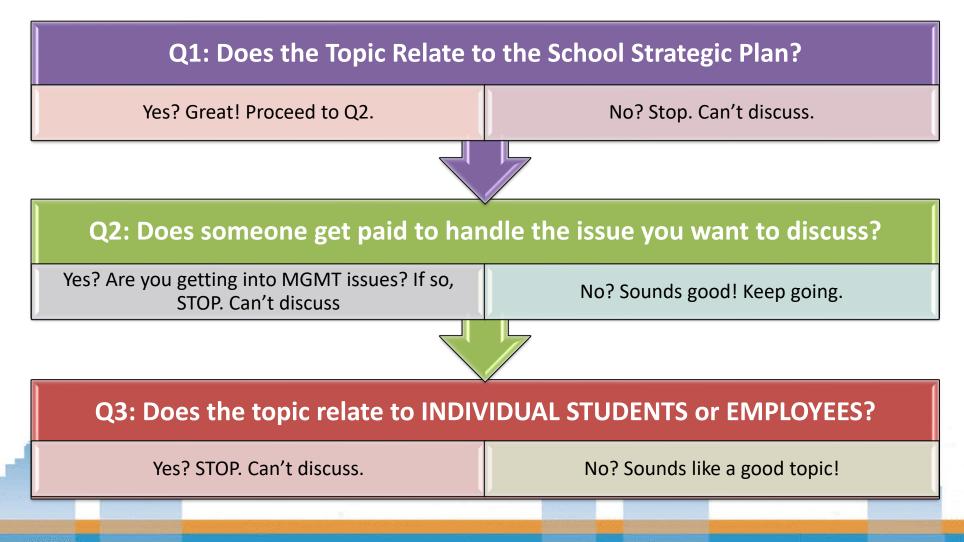
GO Team

- When school is in need of a principal, provide preferred qualifications
- Provides feedback on principal's yearly evaluation
- Provides preferred qualifications of staff positions created through the SBS process

Outcomes

- Improved teacher quality
- Improved principal to school alignment
- Improved student achievement
- Sustainable cluster signature program
- Improved school climate

Appropriate Meeting Topics



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Effective GO Teams...

Set goals and monitor progress using the strategic plan

Use data to drive and inform decision making

Focused on Student Needs

Develop healthy and strong relationships with each other, the principal and GO Team chair

Create a culture of inclusion and collaboration with parents, staff and the community

The GADOE defines High Quality Charter System School Governance as:

School Governing
Team composition
reflects the diversity of
the community

Meets regularly and complies with Open Records and Open Meetings Laws

School Governing
Team sticks to
governance and stays
out of management

School Governing
Team exercises its
school level
governance
responsibilities

Receives regular updates on academic operational, and financial progress of the school

Participates in regular School Governing Team training each year

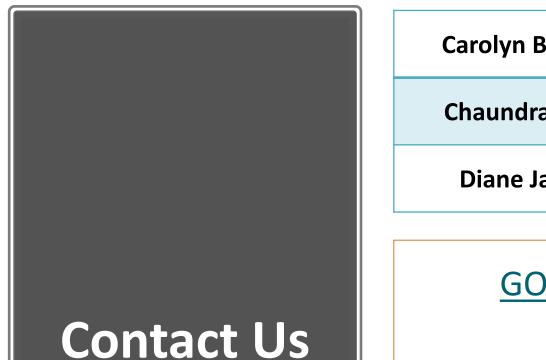
The Problem-Solving Model

- What is happening:
 - How is the problem presenting? Describe it as thoroughly as possible. Who is impacted? How does it impact the work of the school or the team?
- Gather information
 - Is this a chronic problem or has it only surfaced once or twice?
 - Who is involved? Same group/person every time? If it changes, why?
 - How often does it happen?

The more details you have when defining a problem, the greater your chance of finding a workable solutions.

Solutions

- Consider all aspects of the problem
- Identify several potential solutions to the problem
- Identify costs (\$s, time, effort) associated with each solution
- Identify impacts on other school stakeholders/GO Team members
- Ways to generate solutions:
 - Brainstorm
 - Individually then present to the team
 - Ask stakeholders
- Monitor to see if the solution is working



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Questions?